ABSTRACT

The present invention is directed to a method of modulating inflammation within an immune privileged site in an animal by introducing an effective amount of a Fas ligand fragment comprising the extracellular domain of a full length Fas ligand, a derivative thereof, or a nucleic acid encoding the Fas ligand fragment, behind the blood-tissue barrier of the immune privileged site. In one embodiment the invention pertains to methods of modulating inflammation in the central nervous system generally, at specific lesions in the central nervous system, anterior chamber of the eye, testis, placenta and other immune privileged sites in a mammal. The FasL fragments used in the method of the present invention contain the extracellular domain of FasL and are soluble. The method of the present invention comprises the step of directly administering the FasL fragment, or derivative thereof, or a composition comprising the FasL fragment, or derivative thereof, behind the blood-tissue barrier of the immune privileged site.